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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/821,738

04/09/2004

Dietmar Baumann

10191/3762

1507

26646 7590 09/18/2008

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EXAMINER

KING, BRADLEY T

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3683

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

09/18/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/821,738	Applicant(s) BAUMANN ET AL.	
	Examiner Bradley T. King	Art Unit 3683	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 May 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,5,7,9-11 and 13-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,5-7,9-11 and 13-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claims 13 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. Claims 13 and 18 recite “for a detection of cornering, no energy recuperation is performed”. This recitation is narrower than the original disclosure.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1, 3-5, 7, 9-11, 13, 17 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over JP 10-329681 in view of JP 11-205905 and Patient et al (US# 5378053).

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JP 10-329681 discloses a braking method including: modifying the slowdown at the at least one wheel brake, or leaving an overall slowdown of the vehicle essentially constant, wherein the at least one suitable measure is performed as a function of at least one of a comparison of a recorded braking variable to at least one predefined threshold value, a driving situation, and an operating state of a vehicle component located in the vehicle during a braking procedure, and wherein the suitable measure includes unloading of the wheel brakes by a utilization of energy-absorbing components of the vehicle. Note in response to a noise detection signal, the hydraulic braking FL is reduced and the regenerative braking FG is increased to keep the total braking FALL constant. JP 10-329681 lacks the explicit disclosure of reducing rear braking for a detection of cornering. JP 11-205905 discloses a similar braking method and further teaches the reduction of regenerative braking (energy recuperation) when the vehicle needs spin inhibitory control (which is in response to a yaw/cornering detection) to improve steering. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to reduce regenerative braking torque in the system of JP 10-329681 as taught by JP 11-205905 to improve steering in the vehicle, thereby increasing driver control and vehicle stability. JP 10-329681 further lacks a torque limit defined by a force-locking stress factor. Patient et al disclose a similar braking system and further teach a rear axle torque limitation (Max R Tq) to maintain vehicle stability. It further would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to utilize a torque limit such as taught by Patient in the system of JP 10-329681 to ensure braking stability, thereby increasing the safety of the vehicle.

Regarding claim 2, note [0058]. The rear wheels are unloaded and the regenerative force of the front wheels compensates.

Regarding claims 3 and 9, note FL is indicative of a braking power of the wheel brake.

Regarding claims 5 and 11, note the battery charge is considered. [0005].

Claims 14-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over JP 10-329681, JP 11-205905 and Patient et al, as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Zenzen et al (US# 6460941).

JP 10-329681, JP 11-205905 and Patient et al disclose all the limitations of the instant claims with exception to the explicit disclosure of the temperature variable. Zenzen et al disclose a similar brake distribution system and further teach the measurement of brake temperatures to combat brake fade (col. 5), It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to utilize temperature, as taught by Zenzen et al, for a control variable of JP 10-329681, JP 11-205905 and Patient et al to control brake fade and associated noises, thereby enhancing the performance of the brake system.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to the claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Bradley T. King whose telephone number is (571) 272-7117. The examiner can normally be reached on 11:00-7:30 M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Siconolfi can be reached on (571) 272-7124. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Bradley T King/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3683

BTK